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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 2356.0010-05
Customer Number: 22,852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Marc ALIZON et al.) Group Art Unit: Unknown
)
Serial No.: To Be Assigned) Examiner: Unknown
(Based on 08/423,477 (04/19/95)))
)
Filed: November 13, 2001)
)
For: A VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel claim 1.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 23. (New) A polypeptide fragment,
wherein said polypeptide fragment binds to antibodies in LAS patient sera, and
wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises an HIV-1_{ELI} epitope that does not react with
antibodies directed against specific epitopes of HIV-1_{IIIB}, HIV-1_{BRU}, HIV-1_{ARV-2}, or HIV-1_{MAL}.

24. (New) The polypeptide fragment of claim 23, wherein said polypeptide fragment
comprises 5-150 amino acid residues.

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